

## Appropriations Public Hearing Testimony

Thank you distinguished legislators for accepting my testimony upon the proposed bill. My name is Ryan Henowitz and I am a senior at Eastern Connecticut State University. The Connecticut State University system is an integral part of this state. These colleges help to create the workforce of Connecticut. They create individuals with marketable skills who are highly likely to stay within the state.

Throughout my college experience at Eastern Connecticut State University I have witnessed the change in mindset and preparation for becoming a member of the Connecticut workforce that the CSU system provides. The dedication to the community of Connecticut was inspiring to me as volunteer actions such as the White Water Partnership were supported and advocated for by the staff at Eastern Connecticut State University. The work that I did with the White Water Partnership has tied me to Willimantic and with that Connecticut. It is these kinds of projects that the CSU system advocates for and what ties these students to Connecticut.

Through the possible budget cuts the student body and the citizens of Connecticut will be adversely affected as projects such as the White Water Partnership will not be able to achieve the type of funding that had been previously available to it.